

2003 Statistical Abstract



New Americans in Maryland



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lt. Governor

Christopher J. McCabe
Secretary

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is a pleasure for me to introduce to you the 2003 edition of *New Americans in Maryland: Statistical Abstract 2003*. Produced by the Department of Human Resources' Maryland Office for New Americans, this volume brings together from varied sources a wealth of in-depth information on the foreign-born population of Maryland and the United States, presenting the data in a clear and attractive format.

Maryland has emerged as an important destination for immigrants from throughout the world. During the 1990s, our immigrant population grew by 65 percent. In 2003, the foreign-born represent more than one in ten Marylanders, and their share of the population is growing.

Integrating these newcomers into Maryland's social fabric and economic and political life poses many opportunities and challenges. I trust that the information contained on these pages — whether on refugee resettlement or immigrant education, income, or residence — will prove useful to policy-makers, as well as the general public.

This is the third edition of the *Abstract* and the first placed online. We are excited about making the data widely available through the DHR website and invite you to read about our other programs.

Thank you for your interest in *New Americans in Maryland*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Christopher J. McCabe'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher J. McCabe
Secretary

Foreword

This is the third edition of *New Americans in Maryland: Statistical Abstract*. The Maryland Office for New Americans (MONA) has collected national and local statistics on refugees and other immigrants. While these two populations are in many ways similar—in some cases, almost indistinguishable—they differ as to eligibility for benefits and services. Refugees and persons granted asylum qualify for a variety of time-limited federal benefits offered through the Refugee Resettlement Program, which MONA administers in Maryland. Benefits include temporary cash assistance, medical screening and follow-up, English language instruction, and employment services. The eligibility of other immigrants for safety net benefits is more limited, and varies by program.

The *Abstract* is divided into four sections:

- The first (pp. 1-27) features national statistics on refugees, generated by the Office of Refugee Resettlement, and Maryland-specific refugee data compiled by MONA.
- The second (pp. 28-42) features data on immigrants (e.g., admission numbers, state of residence, naturalization by region, etc.) from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (now the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services within the Department of Homeland Security)
- The third (pp. 43-55) features local and national data from Census 2000.
- The fourth (pp. 44-57) features statistics on Maryland's Legislative and Congressional Districts from the Maryland Department of Planning.

Immigration to Maryland was perhaps the most dynamic factor in our state's growth during the 1990s. From 1990 to 2000, international migration to Maryland exceeded domestic migration, with more people moving to the state from other countries than from other states. According to the Maryland Office of Planning, foreign-born residents now represent more than 175 national origins.

New Americans in Maryland provides a wealth of useful information to anyone interested in our foreign-born population. We are particularly pleased to put this third edition online. A print version will not be published. We welcome comments and questions, which may be addressed to:

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Thanks are also due to Mark Goldstein of the Maryland Department of Planning for his assistance with data on Maryland's Legislative and Congressional Districts.

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New Americans In Maryland

Statistical Abstract 2003

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